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The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application. The claims have also been amended to delete multiple dependencies and to place the application into better form for examination. Entry of the present amendment and favorable action on the above-identified application are earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Papers Filed herewith on: February 20, 2001  
DOCKET NO.: 0179-0167P ATTY.: DSD  
APPLICANT(S): FRUEHLICH et al  
APPLN. NO.: NEW FILED: 2-20-01  
PAT NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ New Application with Transmittal Letter PCT/EP99/06494  
☐ Utility ☐ Design ☐ CIP ☒ PCT ☐ Provisional  
☐ Filing Under 37 CFR 1.53(b) ☐ CONT ☐ DIV  
☐ Filing Under 37 CFR 1.53(d) (CPA)  
☐ Filing Under 37 CFR 1.114(RCE)  
☒ Specification Consisting of: 16 pages  
☒ Combined Declaration & Power of Attorney photocopy  
☐ Assignment / Cover Letter  
☐ Letter to Official Draftsman 09/763174  
☒ Drawings 2 Sheets ☒ Formal ☐ Informal ☐ Red-Ink  
☐ Completion of Filing Requirements, PCT/DO/EO/905  
or Formalities Letter and Executed Declaration  
☐ Priority Document(s) / Cover Letter, No. Doc.  
☒ Amendment: Preliminary  
☐ Transmtl Ltr ☐ Large Entity ☐ Small Entity  
☐ Response  
☒ Information Disc. Stmt. PTO-1449(s) 2 ref(s)  
☐ Notice of Appeal ☐ Appeal Brief  
☐ Issue Fee Transmitted  
☒ FEES: \$430.00  
☐ Letter  
☒ Other: Small Entity Statements  
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Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as  
indicated in connection with the above identified case.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Due Date: 2-20-01, 3-8-01  
Handcarry: \_\_\_\_\_  
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